FUERTES JUNTOS

THE WALKING DEAD

181

KIRKMAN ADLARD GAUDIANO RATHBURN

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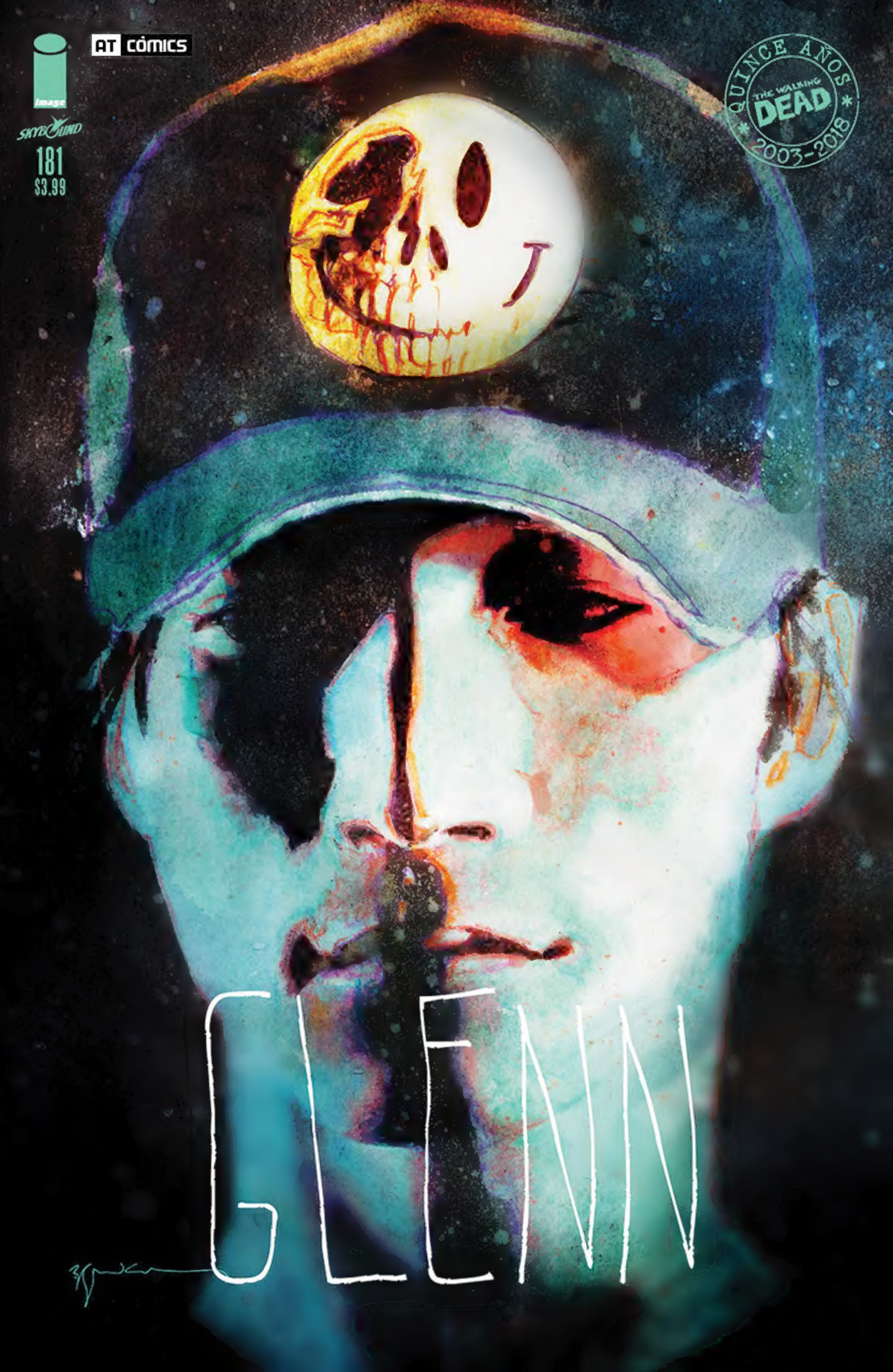
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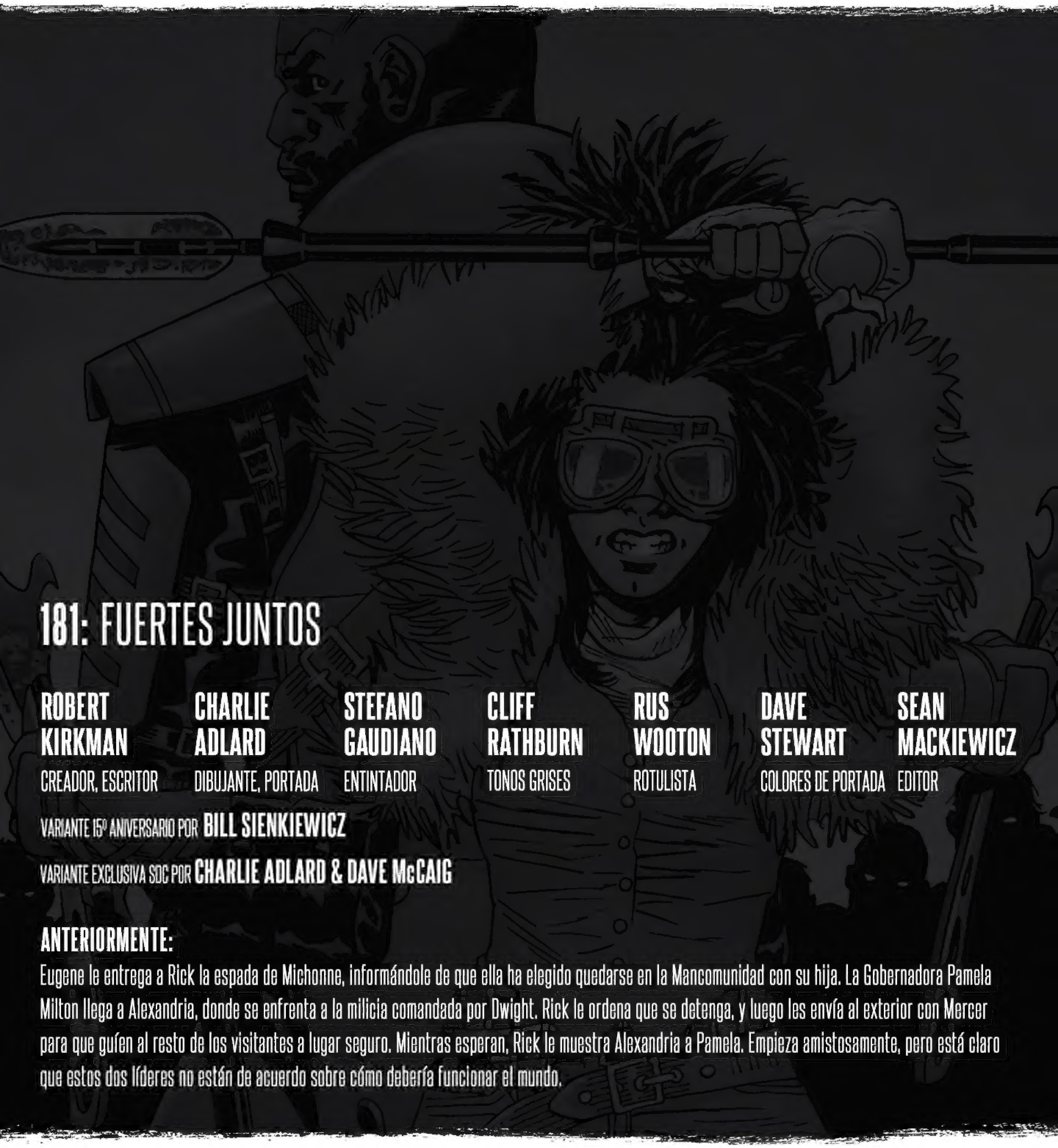

181: FUERTES JUNTOS

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SEAN MACKIEWICZ EDITOR

VARIANTE 15º ANIVERSARIO POR **BILL SIENKIEWICZ**

VARIANTE EXCLUSIVA SDC POR **CHARLIE ADLARD & DAVE McCAIG**

ANTERIORMENTE:

Eugene le entrega a Rick la espada de Michonne, informándole de que ella ha elegido quedarse en la Mancomunidad con su hija. La Gobernadora Pamela Milton llega a Alexandria, donde se enfrenta a la milicia comandada por Dwight. Rick le ordena que se detenga, y luego les envía al exterior con Mercer para que guíen al resto de los visitantes a lugar seguro. Mientras esperan, Rick le muestra Alexandria a Pamela. Empieza amistosamente, pero está claro que estos dos líderes no están de acuerdo sobre cómo debería funcionar el mundo.

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HA PASADO TANTO TIEMPO.
NO HE VISTO EL OCÉANO DESDE ANTES... *DESDE MUCHO ANTES.*

VAYA.

ES MÁS BIEN UNA ENSENADA, EN REALIDAD.
AUN ASÍ... UNA VISTA MAJESTUOSA, SIN DUDA.
VAMOS. TE PRESENTARÉ A PETE.
EN BREVE DEBERÍA PONERSE A COCINAR ALGO BUENO PARA EL ALMUERZO... ASEGURÉMONOS DE QUE TIENE SUFICIENTE PARA TODOS NOSOTROS.
MUY BUENA.
SOY UN PURISTA DE LA EXACTITUD.
DEMÁNDAME.

HABLÉ CON LANCE...
¿Y?
BUENO...
¿EN SERIO?
SUPONGO QUE SI ESO ES--
LE DIJE QUE ACEPTO EL TRABAJO Y EL APARTAMENTO.
VOY A PRACTICAR LA ABOGACÍA PARA LA MANCOMUNIDAD.
¡OH DIOS MÍO!
¡ESO ES ESTUPENDO!
Y ERES HORRIBLE POR ATORMENTARME DE ESA MANERA.
YA SABÍAS QUE IBA A ACEPTAR.
TAMBIÉN ME DIJO QUE PODÍA TOMARME UN TIEMPO PARA ACLIMATARME A LA ZONA Y PONERME AL DÍA CON MI ANTIGUA PROFESIÓN. NO TENGO DUDA DE QUE VOY A ESTAR ALGO OXIDADA.
ES-PERA.
¿ENTONCES TENDRÍAS TIEMPO PARA UN VIAJE?
PUEDE QUE SÍ.

ME LLAMO CARL. ¿Y TÚ?
JOSHUA.
¿TUS PADRES ESTÁN DENTRO CON MAGGIE?
SÍ. SE ESTÁ ASEGURANDO DE QUE NO ESTAMOS DEMASIADO LOCOS PARA VIVIR AQUÍ... NOS ENCONTRARON CON ESA GENTE DE LAS PIELES... PERO NO NOS GUSTABAN.
SÓLO ESTÁBAMOS ASUSTADOS.
¿ENTONCES NO ESTÁN LOCOS? ¿TUS PADRES?
EN REALIDAD NO. NO.
ENTONCES VAN A ESTAR BIEN. NO TIENES NADA DE QUÉ PREOCUPARTE.
VEN CONMIGO, TE ENSEÑARÉ ESTO.
ESTE LUGAR PARECE GENIAL. REALMENTE QUIERO QUEDARME AQUÍ.
¿ES SEGURO?
LA MAYORÍA DEL TIEMPO.
SÍ.

PARECEN ESTAR BIEN.
SÍ, CUANDO LES ENCONTRAMOS PARECÍA QUE NO HABÍAN ESTADO MUCHO TIEMPO CON LOS SUSURRADORES.
TE LO DIGO, SON BUENA GENTE. PUEDO NOTARLO.
LES VIGILAREMOS, PERO PUEDEN QUEDARSE. TENGO A DANTE BUSCÁNDOLES UN LUGAR CÓMODO DONDE DORMIR.
BUENO, LA COMODIDAD ES UN BIEN ESCASO POR AQUÍ EN ESTE MOMENTO. ¿LES MOLESTARÍA SI LES ENVÍO AHÍ FUERA EN BÚSQUEDA DE TIENDAS DE MUEBLES?
RICK DIJO QUE HICIERAN UNA LISTA DE LO QUE NECESITAN... VA A ENVIAR A HEATH Y A SU EQUIPO A REBUSCAR PARA USTEDES.
CUALQUIER COSA QUE NECESITEN, AYUDAREMOS.
SERÁ UNA LARGA LISTA... PERO GRACIAS.
TE PIDE QUE ENVÍES A CARL DE VUELTA PARA VER CÓMO ESTÁ... DE VISITA.
ÉL ESTÁ MEJOR... PERO CREO QUE LE HARÍA BIEN VER A CARL.
CREO QUE PUEDO ARREGLAR ESO.
CARL HA SIDO UN BUEN TRABAJADOR, PERO PODEMOS PRESCINDIR DE ÉL POR UN TIEMPO.
EL LUGAR ESTÁ QUEDANDO BIEN. TRABAJAN RÁPIDO.

* NdT: Hace referencia a un poema de T. S. Elliot: *"Así es como acaba el mundo, no con una explosión, sino con un lamento."*

TE AGRADEZCO DE VERDAD QUE ME DEJES ACOMPAÑARLOS. SÉ QUE SOY NUEVA AQUÍ, Y QUE TENGO QUE GANARME LA CONFIANZA Y TODO ESO... PERO SI VAN A HACER UNA VISITA GUIADA, YA SABES... QUIERO ESTAR EN ELLA. ASÍ QUE ¡GRACIAS!
Y HASTA AHORA... ESTO HA SIDO ESTUPENDO. O SEA, NO ME HABÍA SUBIDO A UN BOTE DESDE QUE ERA UNA NIÑA. ESO FUE... TOTALMENTE BESTIAL.
ESTÁ BIEN, EN SERIO. NO HAY DE QUÉ.
¿CONFÍAS EN MÍ?
CUANDO NO ACTÚAS ASÍ, SÍ.
SI EUGENE CONFÍA EN TI, YO CONFÍO EN TI. HE OÍDO QUE ERES MUY BUENA CON ESA LANZA, ASÍ QUE... PARECE QUE NOS SERÁS DE UTILIDAD.
OH, VAYA. PARECES UN TIPO TAN GENIAL, Y AL PARECER CREES QUE YO SOY GENIAL.
ASÍ QUE, YA SABES... ENTONCES DEBE SER VERDAD. SOY GENIAL.
TODOS-- ¡AGÁCHENSE!
RICK-- ¡PROBLE-MAS!

¿QUÉ HACEMOS CON ESTO?
¿ESPERAMOS? ¿DEJAMOS QUE PASE?
NO PODEMOS HACER ESO... NO ESTAMOS LO BASTANTE LEJOS DE OCEANSIDE. SI ESA MANADA SE DESVÍA SÓLO UN POCO, LES INVADIRÁN.
¿DÓNDE ESTÁN NUESTROS VIGÍAS? ¿CÓMO ES QUE NO HEMOS VISTO ESTO?
NO PODEMOS GUIARLOS. NO SÓLO CONTIGO, HEATH Y YO.
NO SOMOS LOS ÚNICOS QUE ESTAMOS AQUÍ. NO SON TANTOS.
CREO QUE PODEMOS HACERLO.
UN PEQUEÑO CAMBIO DE PLANES... TENEMOS UNA MANADA AHÍ DELANTE. PODRÍA SER UN PELIGRO PARA OCEANSIDE. TENEMOS QUE ENCAMINARLA EN OTRA DIRECCIÓN.
DWIGHT PUEDE EXPLICARLES EL PROCEDIMIENTO. ÉL Y HEATH HAN HECHO ESTO MUCHAS VECES. SIGAN SUS ÓRDENES--ESTO NO DEBERÍA SER MUY DIFÍCIL.
NO VOY A HACER NADA QUE PUEDA PONER EN PELIGRO A LA GOBERNADORA.
LOS CONDUCIREMOS LEJOS DE OCEANSIDE Y DE ELLA. NO AYUDAR LA PONDRÁ EN PELIGRO.
VAMOS.

REPITO, NO SE ACERQUEN DEMASIADO... SÓLO LO SUFICIENTE PARA ATRAER SU ATENCIÓN--EN CUANTO NOS SIGAN PODREMOS BAJAR LA VELOCIDAD ASEGURÁNDONOS DE QUE PERMANECEN TRAS NOSOTROS.
UNA VEZ QUE VAYAN EN LA DIRECCIÓN CORRECTA, NOS ADELANTAREMOS Y DESPUÉS DE PERDERLOS VOLVEREMOS DANDO UN RODEO.
¿VEN? ¡FÁCIL!
SÍ. ESTO...
FÁCIL-- ENTIENDO PERFECTAMENTE CÓMO VA ESTO...
YO LO PILLÉ. PÉGATE A MÍ.
OKEY. GENIAL. EH...
ERES GENIAL.
CÁLLATE, PRINCESA.

¡MÁS RÁPIDO! ¡TENEMOS QUE PONERNOS DELANTE DE ELLOS ANTES DE QUE NOS BLOQUEEN EL PASO!
QUÉDENSE FUERA DE SU ALCANCE Y SIGAN AVANZANDO. SI LOS ATRAEN HACIA NOSOTROS, PODRÍAN SOBREPASARNOS, Y ESO PODRÍA LLEVARLOS DE VUELTA HACIA TU GOBERNADORA.
LO PILLO. LO PILLO.
¡LO CONSEGUIMOS! ¡DISPÉRSENSE Y MANTÉNGANLOS EN MOVIMIENTO!
¡VOY!

NO TAN RÁPIDO... LOS PERDERÁS.
BIEN. **BIEN.**
YA LO TIENEN. ESTÁ FUNCIONANDO, SIGAN ASÍ.
PERO SEÑORA, DIJERON QUE NOS QUEDÁRAMOS EN EL MISMO SITIO.
ESTAMOS EN EL MISMO SITIO. SÓLO QUIERO VER CÓMO LES VA--AVANZA HASTA QUE TE DIGA QUE PARES.
ES UNA **ORDEN.**
¡EN LA PARTE DE ATRÁS! MERCER-- ¡SE ESTÁN SEPARANDO!
¿QUÉ HA PASADO?
¡LE DIJIMOS QUE SE QUEDARA ATRÁS! ¡¿QUÉ CARAJO ESTÁ **HACIENDO**?!
PRINCESA-- ¡CUIDADO!

¡¡YEEAAAGH!!
¡WHUMP!
¡MIER-DA!
¡ARRI-BA!
¡VA-MOS!
OH, DIOS...

¡MIER-DA!
¡MIER-DA!
¡PUEDO LLEGAR HASTA ELLOS!
NO--ES DEMASIADO TARDE. ¡SON DEMASIADOS!
PARA ESO ES LA ARMADURA.
...
¿POR QUÉ ESTÁN--?
OH, DIOS... ¡¿EN QUÉ ESTABA PENSANDO ESA MUJER?!
VEO A DWIGHT... ¡¿VES AL RESTO?!
MIERDA-- ¡¿DÓNDE ESTÁN LOS DEMÁS?!

¡FUEGO CONCENTRADO! UNA BALA POR OBJETIVO-- ¡ASEGÚRENSE DE QUE SABEN A QUÉ LE ESTÁN DISPARANDO!
¡NUESTRA GENTE ESTÁ AHÍ DENTRO! ¡SAQUÉMOS-LOS!
¡BRAKK! ¡BRAKK! ¡BRAKK! ¡BRAKK!
¡YA LE HAN OÍDO!

¡SPAK! ¡SPAK! ¡SPAK!
VALE, ESTO ES *IMPRESIONANTE.*
¡SPAK!
¡SPAK!
¡SPAK!
¡SPAK!
¡SPAK!
¡ALTO EL FUEGO!

¡SHUKK!
¡THUNK!
¡THUNK!
OH... PERDÓN.
PARECÍA QUE ESTÁBAMOS TENIENDO UN MOMENTO.

¡BRAKK! ¡BRAKK! ¡BRAKK!
CLARAMENTE LO TIENEN CONTROLADO. LLÉVANOS ALLÍ.
BUEN TRABAJO, DE TODOS.
BIEN HECHO.
¿HICISTE QUE TUS SOLDADOS NOS SIGUIERAN?
¿NO TE ALEGRA QUE LO HICIERA? SÉ QUE A PRINCESA Y A MERCER SÍ.
ES CURIOSO... ESTOY BASTANTE SEGURO DE QUE SE SUPONÍA QUE HOY VINCENT Y ANNIE TENÍAN *TURNO DE VIGILANCIA.*
TAL VEZ TODO ESTO PODRÍA HABERSE EVITADO SI NO LES HUBIERAS APARTADO DE SUS PUESTOS.
...

¡ENHORABUENA! UN TRABAJO IMPRESIONANTE.
¡HAS HECHO QUE LA MANCOMUNIDAD SE SIENTA REALMENTE ORGULLOSA!
¿EN SERIO? ¿*ESA ES* SU REACCIÓN?
NO PRETENDO FALTARLE AL RESPETO, GOBERNADORA... PERO UNA DISCULPA HABRÍA SIDO LO MÁS ADECUADO.
SIENTO SI TE HE ALARMADO EN ALGÚN MOMENTO, MERCER... PERO *SABÍA* DE QUÉ ERAS CAPAZ.
Y AHORA *ELLOS* TAMBIÉN LO SABEN.

LETTER HACKS

WRITE TO US AT: WALKINGDEAD@SKYBOUND.COM

What are your feelings about the new Governor now? Is it complicated? Then let's talk about something that isn't complicated, that's actually rather simple: WALKING DEAD DAY.

Yes. Yes. Yes. Yes. Yes.

Saturday, October 13th. Mark it on your calendar. This is the first time we're doing this, and we want all of you to take part at your local comic book shop and other participating retailers. We've already started announcing some cool new TWD items that we'll be making available, with more details to come. Stay tuned to Skybound's social feed for more news as it becomes available.

That's right, Sean! It's gonna be a great time had by all! We've got all kinds of awesome things planned for it that we'll be rolling out over the next few months leading up to the day. So get very, very excited!

Now, let's answer some mail.

____

Kirman et al,

New World Order is coming to a close and my questions about the Commonwealth go unanswered. We have almost no REAL info on these guys. They have a bunch of people and a class system but how did they start, why do people obey them, how did the Miltons gain power, WHAT DO THEY WANT? Michonne is blinded by reunion to ask the hard questions, I can't wait for Rick Skeptical Grimes to sit down with Milton. "What a shit-hole" you're a shit-head Pamela. Eugene drop that katana! I love you but you are unworthy! I'm so uneasy about Michonne, she's alone and swordless, I'm certain she's just as deadly but I don't like it. Why does the Commonwealth need lawyers? What new laws have they undoubtedly erected — must have sex with Sebastian when asked? I hate that twerp. He reminds me of Spenser. Hmm, Sebastian, Spencer, Sherry, Shane.. sssuspicious. Although I can't figure out what Magna's deal with Princess is, I agree she'd make a rocking addition to the Hilltop spears and all. Alright Kirkman here's my wishlist (make it happen): 1. Lydia and Sophia cat fight over Carl. 2. Negan sees a hoard of walkers and comes back to warn Alexandria... Negan needs fertilizer for his sunflower and comes back... Negan needs more pork and beans... Negan comes back. I miss reading this guy he can't be gone forever!

Send me cans of pork and beans and I'll make sure Negan comes back. Can't have enough pork and beans! I grew up a B&M guy, but now it's mostly Bush's... but I can be swayed.

3. Mercer and Michonne.

Mercer and PRINCESS is the new shit.

4. Nathan Cole makes a miscalculation and transports into The Walking Dead dimension.

5. You print my letter and we become best friends.

I already have a best friend, but I'll still print your letter.

Undeadly yours,
Grace Staley

Aw, Sean... you've gone soft.

All them beans, man. High fiber.

____

Dear Kirkman and Crew,

Thank you for all that you do. Thank you especially for making Negan. He has been my favorite character since he hit the page. He is hilarious, badass, and underneath, I believe he is a decent person. In a lot of ways, I believe he is a better person than Rick. Anyway, I wanted to write in to let y'all know that my wife and I named our son Negan. He was just born on April 24th at 7lbs 15oz. He is perfectly healthy and strong. I think Negan is a powerful and unique name. Thanks for the inspiration! I can't believe my wife agreed to it! (Who wouldn't though, really?) If only people would realize I named him after this comic and NOT the TV show...

This is the first little baby Negan, as far as I'm aware. Congrats on having an awesome wife, congrats on your new son... maybe keep him away from the Louisville Slugger for as long as possible.

This is the best day of my life. I don't think I've EVER heard of anyone naming their baby Negan! That's awesome... and questionable parenting right out the gate! I approve!

I hope to see Negan again soon in future issues. Would love to see him put Sebastian in his place! I love this new story arc, and I am excited to see where it takes this amazing world that you've created. Keep doing what you're doing! I've loved every bit of it.

Justin from Michigan

PS - Would love to see the state of Michigan get some love in the comic.

This is as close as you get.

For now, at least...

____

Dear Robert & Crew,

I just finished issue #179 and I keep waiting for the other shoe to drop. I mean, can we finally get to the real bad hiding behind and underneath the Commonwealth? We all know it's too good to be true, after all. Bring it on, I say!

Sidenote #1 - I have to ask how you came up with the name The Commonwealth...is it because you're from Kentucky?

Not intentionally, but I KNOW the word "commonwealth" because I'm from Kentucky. I mean, I live in the world and all... but that's how I learned of it. So I didn't purposefully use Kentucky as inspiration... but you can't fight what's rattling around in the ol' noggin, y'know?

At the end of the issue, seeing Eugene hint at his plan to surprise Governor Milton was a nice twist...but does he really feel they have the strength to take on that many armed guards in the caravan? I know that Rick is a 'shoot first, ask questions later' kind of guy but this new Eugene seems more of a risk-taker than he ever was before.

His intention was to arrive ahead of the Governor so he could brief Rick privately... but

you're right, he's more confident than before... and rightfully so.

Sidenote #2 - Why didn't you choose to call Governor Milton something like 'Governess' Milton or 'Mayor' Milton so there is no comparison to the one true Governor (Mr. Blake)? Clearly they have different personalities but I happen to be partial to the OG governor who first appeared in issue #27.

"Mayor" just seemed like a silly play on The Governor. OH, we've seen THE GOVERNOR... now you're giving us The Mayor? Seemed lame. By having her be The Governor... there's a cool weight to it that I've been able to play with in the story.

Also, will Magna ever be given her due? When she appeared in issue #127 there was such fanfare over her arrival that I felt she'd be a much bigger part in TWD mythos than she has been thus far. Is there something more in store for her in the near future? I enjoyed seeing her stand up to the 'know your place' mentality that surrounds the members of the Commonwealth.

We'll be seeing more of her. I do regret not finding more room for her as the story went on.

Lastly, I'm a huge Michonne fan but she's getting soft on us...will there be a need for her to wield her Katana once more? This one can only hope!

She may wish she still had it in issues to come.

Thank you for continuing to make me excited to go to my LCS every first week of the month. Can we get some more bi-monthly issues soon? (Crosses fingers)

We're monthly for the foreseeable future. Need to preserve Charlie's sanity somehow.

Sincerely,
Ryan Nicholas Ray
Lexington, Ky

Unfortunately, I don't see us advancing the schedule any time soon. We are comfortably far ahead of schedule at this point, which is nice. I just turned in the script for issue #185!

____

Will Lydia ever find out who killed her mother?

Ivan

I love when readers ask questions like these.

Maybe. I know it's frustrating, but that's the kind of thing that is such a story trope... you just kind of FEEL like it has to happen... and when it does, it'll be a big scene. But in real life... you don't get satisfying scenes like that. Maybe it's boring, but I think it makes the story more real if we don't do things like that. If there's ever a REASON for Lydia to know Negan did that... she'll find out.

____

Dear Kirkman,

After reading the letter hacks of the previous issues (179 and before) and seeing more and more people chime in on Carl and his "girl troubles" I just thought I'd add my voice to the mix. I'm polyamorous myself so I'd love to see him try make it work with both of them if they were okay with it even if it ended up failing horribly in the end. It just really bothers me (and just about the entire poly community) every time I(we) see these situations in our favourite books, TV shows movies etc. of having to choose when there is clearly feelings that could grow into more when multiple parties are involved. You don't HAVE to choose. Maybe it works out maybe it doesn't but isn't that what all relationships are about.

As much as different people get represented in media recently the poly community mostly got left behind. In my head cannon if the Sophia and Lydia thing ever comes back up they try to give it a shot and see where it goes even if it crashes and burns horribly because poly relationships are like any other in that they sometimes work out beautifully but they also fail or fail horribly a lot.

Whatever happens, I just had to throw my voice in there to give you an idea to consider because I know most of us write about what we know. Love to all the team working on this great piece of entertainment. Also love to the team on Oblivion Song because I'm too lazy to write anymore right now.

Sincerely,
A Random Poly Guy
A small island in the Caribbean

I'm with you, Rando, but these are pretty advanced relationship goals for teenagers. For three teenagers to navigate that emotionally? I think most of us adopt the relationship models that our families set, and it takes a lot to break from that thinking, too.

You're with him, Sean? We're learning so much about you! I think it would be fun to explore a polyamorous relationship in TWD, and we hinted at it with Carol a bit... but while it's a very real thing, it always felt like a gratuitous way to get three-ways into the story in some kind of exploitive way. I'm not a moron, I know your intriguing poly ways aren't just about three-ways, so maybe I just wasn't approaching the subject with enough maturity... the point being, I don't think that lifestyle is right for Carl... at least right now.

____

Wow...coming up on Issue #180 and to part 6 of 6 of the New World Order arc. Given Rick's history with governors, forgive me if I'm particularly concerned about how this meeting may go (especially with certain events that have recently transpired). The Commonwealth sure does seem like a faux paradise, other than that little snot Sebastian and the clearly imbalanced class system. But seeing some remnants of the good old days must've been great for everyone, particularly the football game. Heck, that made me think of Tyreese.

While this is all going on, I can't help but wonder what will happen to the Four Communities in the wake of Sherry's death. The Saviors are clearly a threat once again. Sherry filling the power vacuum after Negan didn't give the softer touch that I think most people were hoping. Dwight also seemed to hope that maybe things would get better, and even though they never did, Sherry's death rattled him. Another conflict with the Saviors seems imminent, and not just because of the Dwight/Sherry angle...I can't be the only one who noticed that Sherry and Tara had the makings of something quite intimate in Issue 161.

We'll check in with the Saviors again very soon, see if we can confirm or reject your speculation then.

Shhhh.

They're on an upcoming cover! I can't keep that secret!

Civil strife appears to be a festering tumor in The Commonwealth. The Saviors are once again a wild card. The Commonwealth's intentions toward Alexandria don't seem to be as friendly as they would have Eugene and the others believe...which thankfully Eugene and Magna seem to already be aware of. The Whisperers are down but, I don't think they're out. With such a "Larger World" (ha! See what I did there?) now facing all of the communities, and the rogue elements among each of them, I can't help but think we may be approaching a sort of "World War Z" situation, especially with the Commonwealth's political system and social imbalance. This is very exciting time for the book.

Slightly off-topic, I do feel like I must apologize - I know you want us to absolutely adore Princess...I really do get it. But I think of all the characters ever introduced into The Walking Dead, I just absolutely cannot find any

redeeming qualities about her. It pains me because it seems that introducing this character was one of the pivotal career moments for you in the history of this book. I don't think I've ever seen you guys so utterly excited to talk about a character in Letter Hacks. She's been a very polarizing character in the fan base, and I fall pretty steeply into the negative side of it. I suppose in time I will get used to her, as I suspect she's here to stay for the long haul.

"Pivotal career moments"? I dig Princess, though I'm pretty sure Negan has dominated our hearts and minds since #100. We love that guy almost enough to name our next child after him.

PRINCESS IS THE BEST!

That out of the way, i definitely appreciate how this time jump has evolved the book. I'd love to see what may happen in the coming issues, especially if The Whisperers were to reorganize and turn their horde onto the Commonwealth (though I imagine directing all those walkers there would take months and months). We know that Alpha and Beta are both dead, and the others seemed to have turned tail and fled, but I can't shake the feeling that things are not over with The Whisperers. Oh, and don't think we didn't catch that subtle hint of The Whisperers in the Season 8 finale either...

If Jesus and Aaron can be believed... and what more trustworthy bros are there? ...Whisperers are no mas.

Speaking of governors and Tyreese, it's amazing to think that The Governor and the Woodbury War was over a decade ago. I never forgot that fateful Issue #48. It was the very first time I wrote to Letter Hacks. This marks the second time (hope you feature me!). Seeing as how we're coming up on 200 issues in a little over one more year, I do want to say thank you. The Walking Dead has been a constant in my life since I picked up the first issue in 2004. Seeing how far the series has come, as well as how far I've come in my own life, is surreal. Thanks for being a part of that journey all these years from college to career to marriage to fatherhood. The Walking Dead is something I constantly look forward to every month, and will continue to do so until the end.

Michael P.
Long Island, NY

Thanks for writing. Pretty amazing that TWD is reaching its 15th Anniversary this year, and a lot of you have been reading this entire time.

Nothing quite like feeling OLD.

____

Dear Letter Hacks,

Hello all. I just wanted to put my two cents in and say that while I'm not really concerned about the human/walker population ratio, or what color the next person I see is much less the kind of cake someone bakes and hands out at a bakery, I believe a more important aspect that has sorely been under imposed is a vegan representation. Since this has mainly turned into a story about survival, why aren't more people trying to choose healthy eating practices? Where are the gardens? The botanists? Horticulturalist?

Ha! Totally joking about that.

Who cares! Bring on more death, sex, and doom and gloom. Great comic as always. That's really all that matters to me anyway. Something I can read while I'M baked, listening to some Hindu music, and munching on whatever the hell kind of cake I want at the time.

T

This guy gets it.

For sure...

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Robert,

The Walking Dead continues to impress, lately. Princess really add something: Finally someone with some real personality! What's the name of Magna's lady friend? I haven't quite caught that yet. Yet another issue without any Roamers in it, huh? Say, where did the New World Order get their Rifles and armor? Or did they make them themselves? Don't know if we've covered that yet. How come Carl's eye doesn't get infected or whatever? And has he ever worn an eyepatch in the comic? By now you must be planning TWD issue #200, huh? Might I suggest another major death or two?

Cheers,
Andrew J. Shaw

PS: For instance, maybe even put Rick Grimes in a coma!! It'd be a total World Without Superman(i.e. Rick Grimes) scenario! He could have some wild dreams (again) and the world without him would be a good experiment, too. Hey: Is Rick short for Richard, or what? What bout Maggie, i.e. Margaret? What's Princess' real name?! You may've used it once, but not even I have total recall.

You have zero recall. It's almost charming. But hey, you really redeem yourself with that Princess love. Write any time.

Andrew J. Shaw loves Princess! Woo hoo!

____

You fuckers

Now I'm really worried about Michonne!
She gives up her sword. No way would I give up my fucking sword in this world! Too trusting too quick. I know she found her daughter but these commonwealth pricks! Come on! She's buying this?
And you then Sean starts the letter hacks with "it's really cool to see Michonne find some peace blah happy blah Ezekiel... Eugene... Samurai sword...action figure!!!

You Fuckers better not kill her in issue 200. I'm telling you we still haven't forgotten Glen. Enough is enough, you better not do this. Kill Rick! He's fucked now anyway!

Love you whatever (unconditional)
Splattmandu x

I love that people are trying to predict who lives and dies by our comments. But... you may be on to something. All I can say is that at least one character mentioned in this Letter Hacks dies before #200.

No one dies in issue #200. There, I said it. Canon--letters columns count!

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Governor Milton continues to tour the communities, and not everyone's happy to see her. Find out who in August.

Also, in a couple short weeks, we'll be in San Diego for Comic-Con. Check out our panels, signings and booth if you're there... or our streaming programming online. Those five days are packed with announcements and news... and, man, will we have plenty to get you talking about.

Also, if you're not reading REDNECK, we've included a preview of the third arc, starting July 25th! Donny Cates and Lisandro Estherren have created a book that is as shocking and deeply enjoyable as this here comic. The first two trades are available now, and the third arc is an absolute MONSTER.

-Sean Mackiewicz

See you then!!

-Robert Kirkman

THE WALKING DEAD

AT-ZOMBIEFACTORY